Exercise Keystone—2002

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Exercise Keystone began as a DLA-sponsored event in 1999 and was known as Operation Keystone. The exercise is designed to give DLA Reserve personnel a better understanding of the operations of a DLA Contingency Support Team (DCST). More than 50 Defense Distribution Center (DDC) Reservists participated in Keystone 2002.

Normally conducted at the Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pennsylvania (DDSP) in May, this annual exercise allows DLA Reservists to come together to train and prepare for operations in austere environments. This year's Exercise was conducted at the U.S. Navy Cheatham Annex in Williamsburg, Virginia.

This four-day event brings all services together and the exercise consists of weapons qualification training, land

navigation training, convoy operations training, protective mask and gear formalization for nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) environments.

"Keystone was a great learning experience," said IT2 Nichelle Davis, DDC Reservist. "There was a lot of work to be done but we learned so much it was really worth it."

This year, Exercise Keystone III added a confidence chamber with gas mask, night vision demonstrations, and training on a mock-up C-130 cargo-handling plane. Reservists slept in tents to simulate forward deployment conditions.

Numerous scenarios and training were tightly packed in the four days, beginning with reveille at 0530 and ending with taps at 2300 hours daily.



Each of the four days of Exercise Keystone 2002 began with morning formation to set out the plan of the day.



Keystone Reservists participated in Team Building. The group shown here just completed the ropes course together.



IT2 Davis practices the correct procedures for wearing a protective mask.



A C-130 static display exhibited the cargo handling capabilities of the plane for Keystone Reservists.



Keystone Reservists sharpened their land navigation skills. Seated left of center is DDC Reserve Coordinator COL Bernard LeVan, USAR.

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